

FROM:

SECRET
ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

Accession No. *42007....*

Date Rec'd. SA.12:27:44.

Intelligence

| To | Room No. | Date | | Officer's Initials | Comments |
|------------------|----------|-------------|-------------|--------------------|--|
| | | Rec'd. | Fwd'd. | | |
| 1. <i>I-E</i> | | <i>1/18</i> | | | |
| 2. <i>I-F</i> | | | | <i>1/15</i> | <i>previously copied from CIB document</i> |
| 3. <i>I-A</i> | | <i>1-23</i> | <i>1-23</i> | <i>FS</i> | <i>10/10/10, 10/10/10</i> |
| 4. <i>Phumma</i> | | <i>1/23</i> | <i>1/23</i> | <i>10/15</i> | <i>Can do it</i> |
| 5. <i>I-1</i> | | | | <i>10/15</i> | |
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SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES ACT
DATE 2008

ABSTRACT INDEX
DATE FEB 21 1953

Each comment should be numbered to correspond with number in To column.
A line should be drawn across sheet under each comment.
Officer Designations should be used in To column.
Each Officer should initial (check mark insufficient) before further routing.
Action desired or action taken should be indicated in Comments column.
Routing sheet should always be returned to Registry.
For Officer Designations see separate sheet.

(4)

SECRET

GX 2007
19 December 44

FROM: AG/000

TO: Saint Washington ✓
Saint London
Saint Beirut

SUBJECT: IRAQ: Tel-Afar Parachute Expedition from Berlin

SOURCE: J-1, Near East Desk

DATE OF INFORMATION: 10 December 44

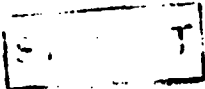
EVALUATION: B-2

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C O N T R O L

④



GX 2007
18 December 44

IRAQ

Tel-Afar Parachute Expedition from Berlin

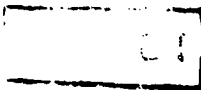
Before dawn (about 4 a.m.) on the morning of 28 November 1944, the four men comprising the German-planned and equipped subject unit parachuted down onto the flat, barren moonlit country just outside the small (six-house) village of Hayouglukoy - eleven miles west of the town of Tel-Afar, due west of Mosul.

The four men chosen for the expedition have since been identified as:

1. Jassim Hussein Karradi (Iraqi)(leader)
2. Khalil Rassool (Iraqi)
3. Ahmed Humaid Fellah (Iraqi)
4. Abdul Hasan Tahir Jifani (Palestinian)

All four of the men were already known to the Iraqi and British authorities in Baghdad, as all four had left Iraq on the collapse of the Iraqi rebellion in May 1941, had gone to Turkey, and were there interned by the Turks. In January 1943 when they were being expelled from Turkey Italy recruited them and they left at once for Rome. They joined the Mufti's army and during the next eighteen months were trained in Italy, in Germany, and in the Nazi Sabotage School in The Hague. Karradi and Rassool specialized in the handling of automatic weapons, while Jifani and Fellah received a more general training including W/T transmission and reception.

To date only Rassool and Fellah have been captured. Karradi and Jifani are still at large. The interrogations have not yet cleared the exact purpose of the expedition, as one prisoner claims it was the German intention that the parachutists should create irregular armed bands, gradually developing these and expanding the groups into a rebel movement against the Government of Iraq and the British in Palestine. When ready they were to receive reinforcements of arms, ammunition and Arabs from Germany. Their HQ, he claims, was to have been somewhere in the Wadi al Qassab area. The second prisoner, however, insists that the expedition was not intended for Iraq at all, but for causing trouble in Palestine, and that they were dropped in Iraq only because it was safer as a starting point from which to make their way into Palestine. In any case, both



agree that the German plane was far off its course and dropped them far from the intended point of operations.

The expedition was conceived and sponsored by the Mufti in Berlin and all the parachutists were members of his Arab Legion. Detailed instructions for operations of the party were given only to Karradi by the Mufti, who also provided the funds, and as Karradi seems not to have confided much to the others, it is probable that only he can clear up the real objectives.

Before departure the party was well-provided with clothes, provisions, medical kits, a wireless transmission set, maps, arms, ammunition, toilet articles, food, etc. When the men jumped from the plane they were all in full German uniform and carried their military identification books showing ranks. (Jifani: a Lieut. in the 4th Co., 845 Inf., German Arab Legion - his pay 400 RMks. per month). (Fellah: a 2nd Lieut., Book #171, born June 1, 1913, 4th Co., 845 Inf. Bn., German Arab Legion.) (Rassool: Sergeant, No. 168, born 1921, 4th Co., 845 Inf. Bn., German Arab Legion - his pay 400 RMks per month - book issued at Zwette 18 August 44.) (Karradi: in uniform of German Major, his pay 600 RMks per month in Germany - leader of the expedition. He is now known to be the "Abu Saleh" - his alias - the W/T operator of a Heinkel 111 which arrived at Alamaki aerodrome in Greece making long distance tests on the morning of 15 September 44 - later returning to Athens, and back to Berlin.)

The parachute expedition left Berlin for Vienna on the morning of Sunday, November 26 in what seems to have been a JU 290 plane with a crew of ten comprising two pilots, one navigator, one front gunner, two upper gunners, one under gunner, one tail gunner and two non-coms who acted as W/T operators and "pushers out" (at the exit door on the port side.)

The party arrived in Vienna the same day and attended a conference there at which a large scale map was produced which, they claim, showed all the smallest villages and wadis of Iraq. It was here that the Wadi al Qassab area was chosen and after a short briefing overnight they left on the afternoon of the 27th for the final Vienna - Iraq hop.

From their description both of the present prisoners seem to have been badly frightened at the time of the jump (it was the first for all of them), and they apparently had to be ejected by the "pushers out".

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The men landed at intervals of about 200 yards apart and were quickly met by Hayouglukoy villagers who had been awakened by the roar of the plane motors. By landing in German uniforms it seems that they had actually expected that the Iraqi Arab countryside was going to be awaiting them with open arms as sort of "liberators". However, when they did not find this reception, they quickly claimed to be Iraqi officials and demanded that the Mukhtar of the village send someone to the Jaimmaqam of Tel-Afar to request a car for them.

Then they immediately changed into civilian clothes and some of the villagers seem to have helped them bury on the spot their boxes of supplies and equipment. (Dug up later in the morning, these proved to be the following items:

- 4 suitcases
- Maps
- 7 Parachutes
- 1 British Sten gun
- 2 French 12-gauge Shotguns
- 1 Luminous Compass
- 2 Flashlights
- 3 small Korans
- 10 cases film for Contax camera
- 1 Zeiss Contax Camera No. 35188
- 2 Automatic Pistols (6.75 mm) "Walther"
- 1 Automatic Pistol Silencer
- 1086 rounds 9 mm ammunition for Sten and Schmeisser guns
- 425 rounds 7.65 ammunition for Pistols
- 75 Shotgun cartridges (3.5 mm shot)
- 15 loaded magazines for Schmeisser guns
- 6 loaded magazines for Sten guns
- Clothing
- Tools
- Toilet articles
- Food
- Medical and Field dressing units
- W/T coils, valves, parts, etc.

Shortly before sunrise Karradi and Jifani proceeded towards Tel-Afar on mules, followed an hour later by Rassool on a donkey and Fellah on foot.

Meanwhile word had been taken to Tel-Afar of the parachute landing. The Jaimmaqam at once warned all police posts to be on their guard and issued orders for questioning and detention of any strangers in the area. By noon the Mutasarrif of the Liwa had telephoned from Mosul and aid

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was sent from British Field Security, from the A.L.O. Office, and from the R.A.F. Armoured Car Company. As a result in the early afternoon Hassool was located and taken into custody in the outskirts of Tel-Afar (begging with tears in his eyes not to be handed over to the British), and Fellah was caught on attempting to leave Tel-Afar by bus.

Karradi and Jifani succeeded in escaping detention, reached Mosul later in the day, and still later were trailed to Kirkuk. From that point nothing more has as yet been learned. They seem to have completely disappeared and are still at large.

As nearly as can be estimated from money recovered and the statements of prisoners the finances of the expedition total between fifty and sixty thousand dollars, made up of French Gold 20 Fr. pieces, Belgian Gold 20 Fr. pieces, English sovereigns, and 10 and 1 Iraqi Dinar notes.

Miscellaneous items gleaned from interrogation:

a. Rashid Ali and the ex-Mufti were still on bad terms when the expedition left Germany - the former being discredited to the point of practical residential detention in Berlin.

b. Since the attempt on Hitler's life, neither Hitler nor any other of the big Nazi Party leaders (except Goebbels) had been seen in public. The woman with whom Fellah lived informed them that Hitler had been wounded in the face.

c. Berlin air-raid shelters hold about 5,000 people, with AA guns installed on the thick concrete tops, operated by periscope sighting from inside.

d. Air-raid warnings generally occur 15 minutes before Allied aircraft are over Berlin.

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